

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Travis J. Parry
Serial No.: 09/989,340
Filed: November 20, 2001
Docket No.: 10012807-1
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTING PRINT JOB

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed May 17, 2006, in which claims 1-17, 19, and 20 were rejected. With this Amendment, new claim 21 has been added, and claims 1, 11, and 16 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1-17 and 19-21, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Czyszczewski et al. US Patent No. 6,577,907.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the e-mail enabled printer is capable of creating and sending e-mails, and clarify that the method includes "attaching said print job data to an e-mail created by said e-mail enabled printer," and "sending said e-mail and said print job data from said e-mail enabled printer to an e-mail enabled device."

With this Amendment, independent claim 11 has been amended to clarify that the e-mail enabled printer is capable of creating and sending e-mails, and clarify that the method includes "creating an e-mail with said e-mail enabled printer," and "sending said e-mail from said e-mail enabled printer for distributing said data of said selected at least one print job."

With this Amendment, independent claim 16 has been amended to clarify that the e-mail enabled printer is capable of creating and sending e-mails, and clarify that the at least one microprocessor of the e-mail enabled printer "is configured to translate said data of said print job into an image format for printing by said e-mail enabled printer, and is configured to create an e-mail, attach said data of said print job to said e-mail, and send said e-mail and said data of said print job to an e-mail enabled device."

With respect to the Czyszczewski et al. patent, Applicant submits that this patent does not teach or suggest a method of distributing print job data from an e-mail enabled printer as claimed in independent claim 1, does not teach or suggest a method of distributing a print job as claimed in independent claim 11, and does not teach or suggest a system for distributing a print job as claimed in independent claim 16 wherein an e-mail enabled printer is capable of

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creating and sending e-mails, and an e-mail is created by the e-mail enabled printer and sent from the e-mail enabled printer.

The Czyszczewski et al. patent discloses a multifunction device 10 including a multifunction controller 25, a first interface 120 for receiving input data from at least one scanner 20 and a second interface 125 for outputting processed input data to at least one printer 43 (see Abstract; Figs. 1, 2, and 5). In addition, the Czyszczewski et al. patent discloses that the multifunction controller 25 is capable of communicating with, and utilizing, various optional global services 55 and optional local services 135 including e-mail, facsimile (fax), printer, directory, security and library services and datastores (col. 5, lines 15-24).

As such, the Czyszczewski et al. patent suggests that the multifunction controller 25 enables a user to send the same document to a number of printers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses, and provides a user with an ability to request printing, to hold a document for later access, as well as to redirect a document to a desired printer or other output device (col. 3, lines 2-7). Thus, the Czyszczewski et al. patent teaches that the multifunction controller 25 implements the optional global services 55 or optional local services 135 including e-mailing from the multifunction device 10. The Czyszczewski et al. patent, however, does not teach or suggest that printer 43 (or global remote printers 53) perform the optional global services 55 or optional local services 135 such as e-mailing. The Czyszczewski et al. patent, therefore, does not teach or suggest a method of distributing print job data from an e-mail enabled printer as claimed in independent claim 1, does not teach or suggest a method of distributing a print job as claimed in independent claim 11, and does not teach or suggest a system for distributing a print job as claimed in independent claim 16 wherein an e-mail enabled printer is capable of creating and sending e-mails, and an e-mail is created by the e-mail enabled printer and sent from the e-mail enabled printer.

Applicant notes that incorporating the multifunction controller 25 into printer 43 would not be obvious as the Czyszczewski et al. patent specifically discloses that the scanner 20 and printer 43 may be any commercially available devices using industry standard interfaces for communication to the controller 25, whereby "[t]his provides an advantage in that the controller 25 may be integrated with scanning and printing devices already in place" such that "[a]n additional advantage is that, as the scanner 20 or printer 43 reaches the end of its useful life, or additional features become available, the scanner 20 or printer 43 may be

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replaced, without replacing other components of the overall system that comprises the multifunction device 10" (col. 5, lines 40-50). In addition, the Czyszczewski et al. patent specifically discloses that the multifunction controller "allows the modular replacement of printers and scanners" (col. 3, lines 1-2). Thus, the Czyszczewski et al. patent teaches away from incorporating the multifunction controller 25 into printer 43.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 11, and 16 are each patentably distinct from the Czyszczewski et al. patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-10 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 12-15 further define patentably distinct claim 11, and dependent claims 17, 19, and 20 further define patentably distinct claim 16, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-17, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claims 1-17, 19, and 20 be allowed.

New Claims

With this Amendment, Applicant has added new independent claim 21. The method of new independent claim 21 includes, amongst other things, "connecting said e-mail enabled printer to a network," "retrieving said print job data from a memory of said e-mail enabled printer using a network device in communication with said e-mail enabled printer via said network," "attaching said print job data to an e-mail," and "sending said e-mail and said print job data from said e-mail enabled printer to an e-mail enabled device."

With respect to the Czyszczewski et al. patent, Applicant submits that this patent does not teach or suggest a method as claimed in new independent claim 21. For example, as outlined above, the Czyszczewski et al. patent teaches that the multifunction controller 25 implements the optional global services 55 or optional local services 135 including e-mailing from the multifunction device 10. The Czyszczewski et al. patent, however, does not teach or suggest that printer 43 (or global remote printers 53) perform the optional global services 55 or optional local services 135 such as e-mailing.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that new independent claim 21 is patentably distinct from the Czyszczewski et al. patent and, therefore, is in a condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-17 and 19-21 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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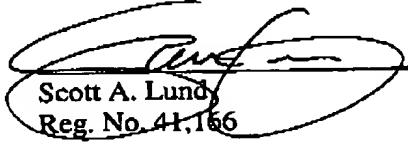
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (371) 273-8300 on this 17th day of August, 2006.

By 
Name: Scott A. Lund